

### BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

On October 10th, the Governor appointed the Board of Medical Examiners under the "new law." The members are as follows:

Regulars—F. F. Gundrum, Sacramento, four years; Harry E. Alderson, San Francisco, three years; William R. Molony, Los Angeles, two years; H. Clifford Loos, San Diego, one year, and Samuel H. Buteau, Oakland, one year.

Homeopaths—Robert A. Campbell, Los Angeles, three years; Charles B. Pinkham, San Francisco, four years.

Osteopaths—D. L. Tasker, Los Angeles, four years; W. W. Vanderburgh, San Francisco, two years.

Eclectic—H. V. Brown, Los Angeles, one year.

This should make a very good board and if they proceed carefully and conservatively, and if the law is not declared unconstitutional, they may be able to prevent some of the crimes that could be committed by a weak or "generous" board under the provisions of the legislative atrocity known as the "new law." The JOURNAL certainly wishes them strength and courage, for they have a mighty hard task ahead of them.

### DAMAGED GOODS—AND FOLLY.

Brieux's great play, "Damaged Goods," that most remarkable play-picture of the danger to the innocent from syphilitic infection, had quite a run at a New York theater and then went on the road, showing at various of the smaller cities. The power and force of Brieux's plays cannot be ignored by any thinking person, and of them "Damaged Goods" has the greatest value as an instructive lesson to the layman, more especially to the "female of his species." Two curious incidents are to be noted in this connection. A clergyman in San Francisco wrote an article for a daily paper in which he expressed his profound approval of the play, and of its lesson, but stated that the stage would have to preach such sermons to the public; that he could not do so from the pulpit. Now, that is curiously interesting. Why cannot the pulpit speak the truth concerning syphilis or anything else that is of the utmost importance to the health and the happiness of the congregation? Must the pulpit confine itself to mythical rewards and punishments and ignore material punishments, like syphilis? What is the reason that the *minister* may not say such things—but the *actor* may? It would be interesting to know the real reason for the clergyman's statement that his lips are sealed; that he cannot preach such a sermon to his flock. If it is that he has not the words or the thoughts, he might at least *read* the play to his congregation. The other suggestive incident is that of the ceremonial burning of Brieux's book, "Three Plays," by the members of a certain women's club in San Francisco, because it was "dirty." How is one to protect people who think it is dirty to show them

their danger and how much they need protection? The ostrich burying his head in the sand is a monument of wisdom in comparison to a lot of silly women burning a book that has, for them of all people, a message of the profoundest importance. If it were not so painfully indicative of hopeless stupidity it would be amusing.

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### CLINICAL CONGRESS.

Elsewhere in this issue we publish a portion of the program of the congress of surgeons which is to be held in Chicago during the week beginning November 10. We understand that about the same time there is to be the formal launching of "The American College of Surgeons" with the dignified induction into membership of those—or some of those—who have "come through" with the \$25.00. It is rumored, however, that a large number of those surgeons or near-surgeons who thought they were going to be permitted to use the magic letters after their names, will be disappointed; they will not be permitted to join the elect—who elect themselves!

DO NOT LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP LAPSE. TAKE OR WRITE YOUR TROUBLES TO THE SECRETARY, PHILIP MILLS JONES, 930 BUTLER BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO.